REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-14 now stand in the present application, claims 1 and 4 having been amended and new claims 13 and 14 having been added. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gehani et al. ("Gehani"). Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's § 102(b) rejection of the claims.

Applicants' inventions are believed to be patentably distinct over Gehani as will be explained in greater detail below. Gehani is based on a pre-defined and limited set of functions which are presented to the user. Gehani creates a customized page (Fig. 3) which limits the user to just three (3) web sites (maps, routes and yellow pages). See Gehani at column 3, lines 11-23 and Figure 3. This is very limiting. Applicants have no such limitation, in that the claimed system (method) can capture and transfer any session. With the Gehani system someone would have to pre-define the Figure 3 "service page."

The present specification describes the prior art Hipbone and E-Co-Browse systems by stating: "They work purely at the URL level . . . " See present specification at page 2, lines 7-10. Essentially Gehani is another example of a system that works purely at the URL level. Gehani dynamically constructs URLs in a similar way to the discussed Hipbone and E-co-Browse systems. There is no notion of a shared independent state, as disclosed and claimed by the present application. Gehani just

allows a second user to construct a URL which is identical to the URL of the page viewed by the first user. This operation is clearly distinguishable from Applicants' inventions which allow a user to continue an individual communications session on a different terminal to that on which the session was started.

Applicants' inventions create an independent representation of the user state, i.e., the claimed inventions go beyond just the URL syntax, to actually capture the state data generated by a user (e.g., form field values, etc). This is vital to allow a session to be moved between devices which have different display characteristics. Also in Gehani, the state for a form would only be captured as part of the URL syntax once a user enters the submit button. In Applicants' inventions, the state is captured automatically as the user works their way through a form. In summary, Applicants' inventions are explicitly targeted at multi-device scenarios – those disclosed in Gehani are not.

In Gehani the second user has to manually elect to "observe" the same page created by the first user. As noted above, in Applicants' inventive systems and methods, the state is captured automatically, and there is no requirement for the user to login again on a second terminal. All the user has to do is select the device from a window and transfer the session "automatically."

Thus, one key difference is that Gehani is recording and transferring the results of sessions (URLs – see, for example, Gehani at column 5, lines 23-58) whereas in Applicants' inventions the whole session is shadowed (see, for example, the fourth element of claim 1: "a store for the parameters . . . including details of a current communications session"). The prior art reference merely shares the results of a

session (i.e., the retrieved URL), not the session itself. In particular, it would not be possible, in the prior art reference, to go back to an earlier page in the session, prior to the point at which sharing started, for example, to modify the search which generated the URL: only the original user can do that. As described in the present specification, session history is also tracked so that it can be transferred from one terminal to another. See, *inter alia*, present specification at page 4, lines 13-15; page 5, lines 13-21, and page 6, lines 1-3.

Thus, it should be clear that in Applicants' inventions that the "details of the current communications session" that are stored are not just the current URL. However, in order to make this distinction clearer, Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 4 to require "a store for the parameters defining the virtual terminal, said parameters recording the progress and history of a current communications session made using a first terminal. . . " Support for these claims amendment can be found, *inter alia*, in the present specification at page 4, lines 11-15, and page 6, lines 3-4.

Since Gehani does not teach or suggest such a "store" claims 1 and 4 and their respective dependent claims are believed to patentably define over the cited reference.

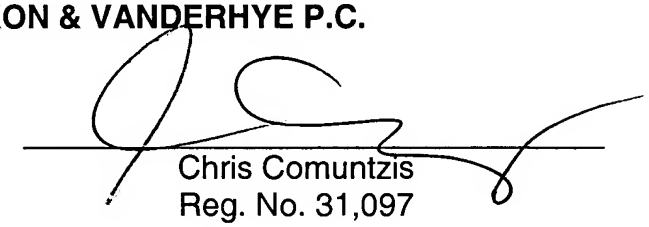
Finally, Applicants have added new dependent claims 13 and 14 which require "tracking the inputs to the first terminal." These claims are also believed to patentably define over the cited reference for the same reasons given above with respect to claims 1-12.

Therefore, in view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all of the claims, 1-14, now

standing in the application, be allowed and that the case be passed to issue. If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through either a supplemental response or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone exchange indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 

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